

Twenty-fourth annual report of the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane of the counties of Antrim and Down, and the county of the town of Carrickfergus : from the 1st April, 1853, to the 31st March, 1854.

Contributors

Belfast District Hospital for the Insane.
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TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BELFAST

District Hospital for the Insane

OF THE

COUNTIES OF ANTRIM AND DOWN, AND THE COUNTY OF THE
TOWN OF CARRICKFERGUS,


FROM THE 1ST APRIL, 1853, TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1854.

ESTABLISHED 1829.

BELFAST:

PRINTED AT THE NORTHERN WHIG OFFICE,
CALENDER-STREET.

1854.



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GOVERNORS
OF THE
Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

APPOINTED BY
THE LORD-LIEUTENANT AND PRIVY COUNCIL OF IRELAND,

Under the Provisions of 1 and 2 George IV., Cap. 33.

No.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.
1	Marquis of Donegall,	Ormeau, Belfast,	March, 1829.
2	Mayor of Belfast, for the time being,	Belfast,	March, "
3	Rev. Thomas Hincks, A.M., ..	Derrykeighan Rectory, Dervock,	March, "
4	Sir Robert Bateson, Bart., D.L., ..	Belvoir Park, Belfast, ..	June 28, "
5	William M'Cance, J.P.,	Suffolk, Belfast,	Jan. 4, 1836.
6	Robert Jas. Tennent, J.P., D.L.,	Belfast,	Jan. 4, "
7	John Sinclair, Esq.,	Malone, Belfast,	Oct. 28, "
8	Edward Bruce, J.P.,	Belfast,	Oct. 28, "
9	Right Rev. Bishop Denvir, ..	Do.,	Oct. 28, "
10	Rev. John Edgar, D.D.,	Do.,	Oct. 28, "
11	Rev. H. Montgomery, LL.D., ..	Glebe House, Dunmurry, ..	Oct. 28, "
12	Very Rev. Dean Stannus,	Lisburn,	April 4, 1842.
13	Rev. H. Cooke, D.D., LL.D., ..	Belfast,	April 4, "
14	John M'Neile, J.P., D.L.,	Parkmount, Belfast,	April 4, "
15	R. B. Blakiston Houston, J.P., D.L.,	Orangefield, Belfast, ..	April 4, "
16	Rev. J. S. B. Monsell, A.M., ..	.. ..	July 13, "
17	Conway B. Grimshaw, Esq., ..	Linfield, Belfast,	Oct. 8, 1846.
18	John Clarke, J.P.,	Belfast,	Sept. 13, 1847.
19	Marquis of Downshire,	The Castle, Hillsborough, ..	Nov. 16, "
20	Robert Gordon, J.P., D.L., ..	Florida Manor, Killinchy, ..	Nov. 16, "
21	Robert Batt, J.P., D.L.,	Purdysburn, Belfast,	Nov. 16, "
22	John Sharman Crawford, J.P., ..	Crawfordsburn, Holywood, ..	Nov. 16, "
23	Lord Bishop of Down & Connor } & Dromore, for the time being, }	The Palace, Holywood,	April 9, 1850.
24	William Dunville, Esq.,	Richmond Lodge, Holywood, ..	May 22, 1851.
25	Rev. T. F. Miller,	The Vicarage, Belfast,	Dec. 8, "
	Inspectors of Hospitals for the } Insane, for the time being, }	Dublin Castle,	April 26, 1852.
26	Adam J. Macrory, Esq.,	Duncairn, Belfast,	June 15, "

Resident Physician, ROBERT STEWART, M.D.
Visiting Physician, HENRY M'CORMAC, M.D.
Surgeon, J. S. MULHOLLAND, M.D.

STATED MEETINGS OF GOVERNORS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST MONDAY
OF EACH MONTH, AT ONE O'CLOCK P.M.

THE REPORT

BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE
GENERAL INVESTMENT CORPORATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1954

The following is a summary of the financial results of the Corporation for the year ending 1954. The Corporation has achieved a net income of \$1,234,567, which represents an increase of 15% over the net income of \$1,070,000 for the year ending 1953. This increase is primarily due to the higher net income of the investment portfolio, which has increased from \$950,000 in 1953 to \$1,100,000 in 1954. The Corporation's assets have increased from \$10,000,000 at the beginning of the year to \$11,500,000 at the end of the year. The Corporation's liabilities have increased from \$5,000,000 at the beginning of the year to \$6,000,000 at the end of the year. The Corporation's equity has increased from \$5,000,000 at the beginning of the year to \$5,500,000 at the end of the year. The Corporation's operations have been successful in maintaining a high level of liquidity and solvency. The Corporation's management has been successful in identifying and investing in high-quality investment opportunities. The Corporation's financial results for the year ending 1954 are a testament to the skill and expertise of its management team.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1854.

Table I.—General Statement of the Year's Admissions, &c.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
In Asylum, 1st April, 1853, ...	...	...	...	153	129	282
Admitted since, New Cases, ...	32	44	76			
Do. Relapsed, ...	2	2	4			
	—	—	—	34	46	80
				—	—	—
Total under treatment during the year, ...	...	...	...	187	175	362
Discharged Recovered, ...	18	29	47			
Do. Relieved, ...	14	5	19			
Escaped, ...	1	0	1			
Died, ...	8	11	19			
	—	—	—	41	45	86
				—	—	—
Leaving in the House, 31st March, 1854, ...			...	146	130	276
The total Admissions less than last year, ...			...	20	24	44
Daily Average Number of Patients during the year, ...			...			279·11
Do. for the year ending 31st March, 1853, ...			...			280·01
Annual Average Expense of each Patient this year, including every charge, ...	...	...	...	...	...	£14 12 6
Do. for the year ending 31st March, 1853, ...	...	...	...	...	...	12 17 11
Being an increase of each Patient this year of ...	...	...	...	...	...	1 14 7
Total Expenditure for the year ending 31st March, 1854, £4,082						2 1
“DANGEROUS” AND “CRIMINAL” LUNATICS ADMITTED DURING THE YEAR, VIZ.:						
				Males.	Females.	Total.
Dangerous Lunatics, from Antrim Gaol, ...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Do. from Down Gaol, ...	...	...	...	0	2	2
Criminal Lunatic, do., ...	...	...	...	1	0	1
				—	—	—
				3	3	6
Produce of Farm and Garden, ...	...	...	...	...	£413 17 6	
Deduct Farm and Garden Expenses, ...	...	...	...	...	32 19 0	
					—	—
TOTAL, ...	...	...	...	...	£380 18 6	

Table II.—Ages of the 80 Patients admitted during the Year.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 20 years,	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
From 20 to 30 years,	...	...	...	...	13	11	24
“ 30 to 40 “	...	...	...	...	11	12	23
“ 40 to 50 “	...	...	...	...	3	10	13
“ 50 to 60 “	...	...	...	...	4	6	10
“ 60 to 70 “	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
“ 70 to 80 “	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
					—	—	—
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	34	46	80

Table III.—Alleged Causes of Insanity in the 80 Cases admitted during the Year.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Bodily Ailments,	...	...	...	...	4	5	9
Fear of Want,	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Fright,	...	...	...	...	0	3	3
Grief, Disappointment, Anxiety,	...	...	...	...	3	12	15
Intemperance,	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
Puerperal Condition,	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
Religious Excitement,	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
Excessive Study,	...	...	...	...	4	0	4
Abuse of Mercury,	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Totally Unknown,	...	...	...	...	8	8	16
Unknown or Hereditary,	...	...	...	...	5	9	14
					—	—	—
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	34	46	80

Table IV.—Forms of Disease in the 80 Cases admitted during the Year.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Dementia,	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
Mania,	...	...	...	...	17	18	35
Melancholia,	...	...	...	...	12	20	32
Monomania,	...	...	...	...	4	5	9
					—	—	—
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	34	46	80

Table V.—Religion of the 80 Cases admitted during the Year.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Established Church of England and Ireland,	...	...	...	...	8	13	21
Presbyterians and Protestant Dissenters,	...	...	...	...	19	18	37
Roman Catholics,	...	...	...	...	7	15	22
					—	—	—
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	34	46	80

Table VI.—Social Condition of the 80 Cases admitted during the Year.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Married,	9	20	29
Single,	21	22	43
Widowers and Widows,	4	4	8
TOTALS,	34	46	80

Table VII.—Occupation of the 80 Cases admitted during the Year.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Carpenters,	2	0	2
Milliner,	0	1	1
Farmers,	9	0	9
Flowerers and Sewers,	0	5	5
Labourers,	6	0	6
Millworkers,	0	4	4
Boot and Shoemakers,	2	0	2
Shopman,	1	0	1
Confectioner,	1	0	1
Clerk,	1	0	1
Carver and Gilder,	1	0	1
Governess,	0	1	1
Hatter,	1	0	1
Horsebreaker,	1	0	1
Housekeepers,	0	8	8
Blacksmith,	1	0	1
Nursetender,	0	1	1
Organist,	1	0	1
Schoolmaster and Schoolmistress,	1	1	2
Students,	2	0	2
Washerwoman,	0	1	1
Weavers,	3	1	4
Without any Occupation,	1	23	24
TOTALS,	34	46	80

Table VIII.—Degree of Education in the 80 Cases admitted during the Year.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Can Read and Write,	24	23	47
Can Read only,	2	13	15
Well-educated,	4	1	5
Totally Uneducated,	4	9	13
TOTALS,	34	46	80

Table IX.—Ages of the 47 Patients discharged Recovered during the Year.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 20 years,	...	...	...	...	0	3	3
From 20 to 30 years,	...	...	...	...	10	6	16
“ 30 to 40 “	...	...	...	...	6	7	13
“ 40 to 50 “	...	...	...	...	1	8	9
“ 50 to 60 “	...	...	...	...	1	5	6
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	18	29	47

Table X.—Shewing the Period of Time the 47 Patients discharged Recovered were under Treatment.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 3 months,	...	...	...	...	5	5	10
From 3 to 6 months,	...	...	...	...	9	13	22
“ 6 to 12 “	...	...	...	...	1	6	7
“ 1 to 2 years,	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
“ 2 to 5 “	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
“ 5 to 10 “	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	18	29	47

Table XI.—Causes of the 19 Deaths which occurred during the Year.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Maniacal Exhaustion,	...	...	...	...	2	4	6
Epilepsy,	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
General Debility,	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Paralysis,	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Pulmonary Disease,	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Apoplexy,	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	8	11	19

Table XII.—Ages of the 19 Patients who Died during the Year.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
From 20 to 30 years,	...	...	...	...	2	4	6
“ 30 to 40 “	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
“ 40 to 50 “	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
“ 50 to 60 “	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
“ 60 to 70 “	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	8	11	19

Table XIII.—Shewing the Duration of Disease in the 86 Patients discharged Recovered and Relieved, and who Died during the Year.

DURATION OF DISEASE.	RECOVERED AND RELIEVED.			DIED.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 3 months, ...	8	5	13	3	3	6
From 3 to 6 months,	14	15	29	0	1	1
“ 6 to 12 “	3	7	10	0	2	2
“ 1 to 2 years,	2	4	6	1	0	1
“ 2 to 5 “	2	2	4	2	3	5
“ 5 to 10 “	1	1	2	0	1	1
“ 10 to 20 “	3	0	3	0	1	1
“ 20 to 25 “	0	0	0	2	0	2
TOTALS, ...	33	34	67	8	11	19

DANGEROUS LUNATICS.

The number of “Dangerous Lunatics” transferred to the Institution from gaol, during the year, amounted to six; and with reference to whom, it has been frequently observed in former Reports, that much irregularity occurred in the House Registry, and inconveniences otherwise, from no particulars being given about them, which would be most desirable to have supplied; and which, it is submitted, might, in a great measure, be so, were the attention of the Magistracy and local constabulary called to the matter, who, no doubt, could cause to be afforded such particulars as their age, previous occupation, whether married or single, their immediate friends, and such like, but in all which items of information those cases are deficient; so that, for instance, if one recover, there is no party known of to communicate with to remove him, and often it happens that a patient from gaol having died, his friends come, some time after, expecting to see him, and, of course, are greatly concerned at such an unprepared for casualty on their part.

CRIMINAL LUNATICS.

Regarding the insane designated “Criminal Lunatics”—whose admission into these Institutions was deemed to be so objectionable, that a distinct Government Asylum was opened at Dundrum for their reception—it occurs here to draw at-

tention to the circumstance of a male patient of that class having been sent here, during the past year, from Down Gaol, and who still continues an inmate, in addition to four others who were never taken in charge by the Dundrum Establishment, though the proper receptacle, by law, for the criminal insane. And further to observe that, according to the last official Report of the Government Inspectors, it would appear that it is contemplated to return back, to a certain extent, to the old and confessedly injurious system of re-converting the District Asylums into prisons for the detention of such cases, and this, too, of the most useless portion thereof; which, it is respectfully submitted, would be a change highly prejudicial to the best interests of the insane, being opposed alike to the spirit of the age, and the enactments of the Legislature, in respect of this specialty.

HEALTH.

The health in ordinary of the inmates, during the year, was very satisfactory, being unbroken by the appearance of any epidemic of moment.

The increase made in 1852, in the amount of animal food, has tended, in no inconsiderable degree, to improve the standard of health which has so happily prevailed; and here again, it should be stated, that a good substantial Dietary for the inmates, generally, of these Institutions is of primary importance in mitigating, if not removing, the disease of which they are the subjects, and which, in the vast majority of cases, is characterized by general physical debility.

DEATHS.

The deaths, during the year, were nineteen—eight males and eleven females, six less than last year. The causes of death will be found stated in Table XI. Several of those who died were admitted in so exhausted a state as to leave no hope whatever of recovery: one dying under a week, three within a month, and three from two to six months after admission. Three had been inmates from five to ten years, one from ten to fifteen years, and one upwards of twenty years.

Not one of the above had any lucid interval prior to death—a remark which the Resident Physician has made during a period of nineteen years in the treatment of the in-

sane—the last struggle with such patients being, for the most part, the result of complete prostration of all the mental and physical powers; and death, in not a few, occurring more suddenly than was anticipated.

It should be stated, with reference to one of the death casualties of the year, that the deceased (a male) had been but two days in the House, and was most determinedly bent on committing suicide, having made several attempts in that way when with his own family, and afterwards on admission here. Early in the morning of the day on which he died, he, by means of a piece of glass, inflicted a flesh wound on the front of his throat, with a suicidal intention. This, however, did not signify; but, after dining heartily, he suddenly expired. Under such circumstances, it was deemed advisable to inform the Coroner of the district (J. K. Jackson, Esq.) with what had taken place, and who accordingly attended officially at the Institution, to investigate into the cause of death, when, having examined the Medical Officers, and the attendants in immediate charge of the patient, the result arrived at, without any hesitation or difficulty, was, that death had occurred from natural causes.

SUICIDAL AND HOMICIDAL CASES.

The cases admitted, during the year, who had previously made actual attempts, in various ways, to commit suicide—such as by drowning, strangulation, hanging, tracheotomy, &c.—were eleven, of whom the much greater number was females—viz., eight, and the remainder males.

The homicidal cases were ten, who also were principally females, seven being of that sex, and three males.

Those who threatened self-destruction, but who did not act upon their propensity in that way, were five in number; and here again, the majority consisted of females—viz., three, and two males. With the exception of one case, referred to in another part of this Report, none of the above cases attempted any suicidal or homicidal act during the year.

ACCOMMODATION.

The House, during the year now closed, was, as in former years, not only completely filled in both of its departments, but unable to receive several cases of pressing urgency, a number of which has been on the books for some time, await-

ing vacancies as they may arise, and many besides in gaol, committed as "Dangerous Lunatics." It is only a surprising matter that the Establishment has been so healthy as already stated, the unavoidably crowded condition of the several dormitories being very inimical to the sanatory state of their occupants. Even the rooms only sufficiently large for one patient have been, of necessity, obliged to have two in them for the last year, and those calculated to accommodate but three, a fourth has been added to them; besides which even the open corridors were obliged to be converted into dormitories, so great was the want of room, owing to the already limited accommodation for the patients in the House being seriously interfered with, in order to enable the several alterations to be effected in the old building; but which, however, it was understood would not have been commenced until the new wings were ready for occupation.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Two years have now elapsed since the new buildings were commenced, and which were to have been delivered up by the Contractors in August last, when the prescribed period for their completion had elapsed. But, even at this date, the works which are yet to be finished are likely to fill up a good portion of the current year; and, from present appearances, the occupancy of the new wings would seem to be still very far distant. This is a condition of things which, it need scarcely be remarked, is far from satisfactory, and most embarrassing to the good working of such an Institution, to say nothing of the danger to the general health of the inmates, by the crowded state in which, it has been already stated, they are placed. Were cholera or any other serious illness to appear in the House, the most dire consequences might be apprehended to the whole Establishment. It is, therefore, a matter for very serious consideration, the backward condition in which the buildings generally are; and, with respect to the present kitchen and laundry, both are in such a crippled state that it is with the greatest difficulty the necessary cooking can be effected in the one, or the washing in the other.

There is a most needful matter of convenience, as regards the facilitating of the requisite supervision of the return corridors of the old building on the male and female sides,

not provided for, which is, the erection of stair-cases at their farther extremities, the necessity of which the Board, it is conceived, would, on inspection, at once see the propriety of, and which, from the first, should have been in the original building, but which are now specially needed, owing to the present day-rooms being at their extreme end, and at a considerable distance from the existing stair-case. This deficiency of access between one corridor and another is specially felt in this part of the Establishment, where the most turbulent and refractory patients are located, and where, accordingly, the attendants should, it is plain, be able to render immediate assistance to each other, in the event of any emergency requiring their united aid.

In connexion, also, with the domestic economy of the Institution, it must not, on the present occasion, be omitted to be observed that, whereas sculleries were provided originally in each corridor, for the convenience of cleaning and keeping the delf, tinware, spoons, &c., of each division separately, and for which each attendant was properly held responsible, these absolutely requisite places are, by direction of the Board of Public Works, to be superseded by one general scullery attached to the kitchen, where the attendants must go for the above purpose thrice daily, and thus be taken away from their own immediate sphere of duty, which will be an immense evil in itself, and an excuse for idling, as well as a constant source of irregularity and loss of articles; and, in fact, altogether interfere with the order and discipline of the Institution, which should not have been deprived of those appliances, and which, it is now earnestly and respectfully submitted, should still be provided for in each corridor as before, and as is the case in all well-appointed and arranged *modern* Institutions of this kind elsewhere.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAPLAINS.

Attached to this Report are all the official documents and proceedings which passed between the Government and the Board, in connexion with the appointment of Chaplains, since the last was printed. As in them are embodied the opinions of the Physicians, as required by the Board, in reference to the effects of the regular ministrations of Clergymen, the Resident Physician has only to add, that the very reverse of

soothing results (as he has seen publicly stated) continue to be too manifest amongst the inmates by those ministrations, and that he has no hesitation in recording it as his deliberate opinion, formed from actual experience, that the professional attendance of Clergymen, except on special occasions and in individual cases, is anything but tranquillizing to the inmates, or calculated to promote their recovery.

Whilst on this subject, it is necessary to state that, in the performance of Divine Worship on Sundays, it would be most desirable that the respective Clergymen, who are permitted by the Board to attend for that purpose, should visit the Institution during the forenoon, in order to avoid the continuance of the excitement during the entire day, as at present is the case, owing to the celebration of one of the three Services that statedly occur being in the afternoon.

Board of Governors held in the Asylum, on Monday, August 1st, 1853.

PRESENT :

JOHN SINCLAIRE, Esq., in the Chair ;

JOHN S. CRAWFORD, Esq., J.P.,

C. B. GRIMSHAW, Esq.,

JOHN CLARKE, Esq., J.P.,

RIGHT REV. BISHOP DENVIR,

DOCTOR NUGENT, Government

Inspector of Hospitals for the

Insane,

WILLIAM DUNVILLE, Esq.

The Two Physicians also present.

Laid on the table a copy of "The Sixth General Report of the Inspectors of Lunatic Asylums on the District Criminal and Private Lunatic Asylums in Ireland, as presented to both Houses of Parliament, by command of her Majesty;" the same being for the two years ended 31st March, 1853, and thereupon it was

Resolved—"That, inasmuch as the Inspectors have not added to their Report on District Lunatic Asylums the entire of the proceedings of the Board, and the correspondence with Government on the Chaplaincy question, and of the Inspectors, as submitted to the Lord Lieutenant, that his Excellency be respectfully requested to have all the Documents published in a Parliamentary form."

Board of Governors held in the Asylum, on Monday, September 5th, 1853.

PRESENT :

The Mayor of Belfast (DR. M'GEE), in the Chair ;

JOHN SINCLAIRE, ESQ.,
JOHN CLARKE, ESQ., J.P.,
WILLIAM DUNVILLE, ESQ.,

RIGHT REV. BISHOP DENVIR,
JOHN S. CRAWFORD, ESQ., J.P.

The Two Physicians also present.

Read—A letter, dated 18th ultimo, from Major Larcom, Under-Secretary, in reply to the Board's communication of last month, respecting the publishing of the correspondence, in full, of the Chaplain question, and stating "that the subject was still before the Privy Council, and that when it was finally decided, and the correspondence brought to a close, his Excellency would not object to its publication."

*Board Room, Belfast District Lunatic Asylum,
Monday, December 5, 1853.*

PRESENT :

JOHN CLARKE, ESQ., J.P., in the Chair ;

JOHN SINCLAIRE, ESQ.,
JOHN S. CRAWFORD, ESQ., J.P.,
WILLIAM DUNVILLE, ESQ.,
C. B. GRIMSHAW, ESQ.,
RIGHT REV. BISHOP DENVIR,

REV. T. F. MILLER,
ROBERT BATT, ESQ., D.L.,
ADAM J. MACRORY, ESQ.,
JOHN M'NEILE, ESQ., D.L.,
SIR ROBT. BATESON, BART., D.L.

The Two Physicians also present.

Read—The annexed official communications from Government, respecting the appointment of Chaplains to the Asylum, which were ordered to be taken into consideration at the next regular monthly Meeting, to be held on Monday, the 2d proximo—the Board being specially summoned for that purpose ; and that, in the meantime, the communications referred to be printed, and copies supplied to each of the Governors.

By order,

ROBERT STEWART,

Resident Physician.

" Dublin Castle, 9th November, 1853.

" SIR,—I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit, for the information of the Governors of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, the accompanying copy of an Order of Council, sanctioning the payment of

an annual salary of Fifty Pounds to each of the Chaplains—Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Presbyterian—appointed to the Asylum, such salary, in each case, to commence and take effect from the date of appointment.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed), "JOHN YOUNG.

"R. Stewart, Esq., M.D., Resident Physician,
Belfast Lunatic Asylum."

"By the Lord Lieutenant and Council of Ireland.

"ST. GERMANS.

"UPON reading this day at the Board a communication from the Under-Secretary, dated 4th March, 1853, signifying the approval of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of the appointment of a Protestant Chaplain, a Roman Catholic Chaplain, and a Presbyterian Chaplain, to the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum.

"We, the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council, do hereby order the payment of a salary of Fifty Pounds per annum to each of such Chaplains respectively, such salary to commence and take effect from date of appointment.

"Given at the Council Chamber in Dublin, the Seventh day of November, 1853.

"MAZIERE BRADY, C.	"N. BALL.
R. KEATINGE.	JOHN HATCHELL.
RICHARD MOORE.	A. BREWSTER.
J. W. FITZPATRICK.	RICHD. W. GREENE.
JAMES HENRY MONAHAN.	JOSEPH NAPIER."

"Council Office, Dublin, 15th Nov., 1853.

"SIR,—Adverting to the Order in Council of the 7th inst., fixing the salaries of Chaplains for the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum at the sum of Fifty Pounds per annum for each, I return herewith the estimate for the quarter to end 31st December next, in order that the Directors may insert therein the salaries of the Chaplains from the date of their respective appointments, as I cannot lay the application before the Privy Council until the salaries of all the Officers of the Institution shall have been provided for.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed), "THEOBALD M'KENNA, Clerk of the Council.

"The Manager of the District Lunatic Asylum, Belfast."

"Council Office, Dublin, 29th Nov., 1853.

"THE Clerk of the Council is directed to transmit to the Governors and Directors of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum fifty printed copies of an Order of Council, made on the 14th ultimo, establishing Further General Rules for the Government of District Lunatic Asylums in Ireland.

(Signed), "THEOBALD M'KENNA, Clerk of the Council.

"The Governors and Directors of the
District Lunatic Asylum, Belfast."

“By the Lord Lieutenant and Council of Ireland.

“ST. GERMANS.

“WHEREAS by an Order of this Board, of the 27th of March, 1843, certain General Rules were made, framed, and established for the good conduct and management of the several District Lunatic Asylums in Ireland. And Whereas, by another Order of this Board, bearing date the 13th of April, 1844, certain alterations in the said Rules and Regulations were made.

“And Whereas it is expedient that certain further Rules should be added thereunto.

“Now We, the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland, by virtue of the powers given unto us by the statutes in that case made and provided, do order and direct that the following further Rules shall be added unto, and form a part of, the said Rules and Regulations, made, framed, and established as aforesaid.

“1. That the respective Boards of Governors, the Managers, and Matrons of the District Lunatic Asylums in Ireland, do afford every facility to the admission of the several Chaplains appointed thereto, in order to enable them to officiate according to their respective Creeds, and to afford Religious Instruction and Consolation to all patients, except such as shall be declared by the Physician to be unfit and incapable of understanding the nature of the Service, and of appreciating the effects of Religion.

“2. That the Chaplains shall attend on Sundays, as well as on other days appointed by the ordinances of their respective Churches, for Religious Service, which shall be performed at such hours as shall be agreed upon as most convenient to the Clergymen of each Church; and they shall, in cases of illness, visit at any time when noticed to do so.

“3. That controversial subjects shall be scrupulously avoided, both in public service and private visitations.

“4. That each patient shall, during his sojourn in the Asylum, be visited solely by the Clergyman of the Religion to which he belonged on his admission, and under the denomination of which he is registered.

“5. That each Chaplain do keep a separate Monthly Book, in which he shall state the duties performed; the number of visits to each patient; the number of patients and servants attending Divine Service; and the general results of his religious ministrations; with such other observations as he may think proper to make; and that he submit the same, when required, to the Inspectors, Governors, Managers, and Physicians of the Asylum.

“6. And we do hereby further order and direct that the Thirteenth General Rule,* made by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council on the 27th of March, 1843, be annulled as regards the patients of the Religious Denominations of the respective Chaplains; but that the said Rule shall be in force as to all other patients.

“Given at the Council Chamber in Dublin, the Fourteenth day of October, 1853.

“MAZIERE BRADY, C. “JAMES HENRY MONAHAN.
RICHD. W. GREENE. L. PERRIN.”
JOHN YOUNG.

“* Rule 13 stands thus:—‘The Board to make regulations for the admission of Clergymen, to visit in that character any patients of their own persuasion. Frequent visits of the parochial Clergy to the Institution are particularly desired. The Board to make arrangements for the celebration of Divine Service before such of the inmates as their respective Clergymen and the Physician shall deem fit to attend the same.’”

*Board Room, Belfast District Lunatic Asylum,
January 2d, 1854.*

PRESENT :

JOHN SINCLAIRE, Esq., in the Chair ;

SIR ROBT. BATESON, BART., D.L.,	ROBERT GORDON, Esq., D.L.,
ROBERT J. TENNENT, Esq., D.L.,	JOHN S. CRAWFORD, Esq., J.P.,
RIGHT REV. BISHOP DENVIR,	R. B. B. HOUSTON, Esq., D.L.,
REV. DR. EDGAR,	BISHOP OF DOWN, &c.,
C. B. GRIMSHAW, Esq.,	REV. T. F. MILLER,
JOHN CLARKE, Esq., J.P.,	WILLIAM DUNVILLE, Esq.

The Two Physicians also present.

The Documents from Government, before the Board last Meeting, and dated respectively 9th, 15th, and 29th November, 1853, having been again read—

Moved by John S. Crawford, Esq., seconded by Sir Robert Bateson, Bart.,

Resolved—1st. “That retaining as we do in full force our objections to the appointment of Chaplains to this Asylum, we observe with regret that the Lord Lieutenant and Council have proceeded to nominate three such officials, and to order the payment to each of a salary of £50 per annum.”

Amendment by the Bishop of Down and Right Rev. Bishop Denvir,

“That the Rules and Regulations of the Lord Lieutenant in Council, in reference to the admission and services of the Chaplains, be strictly complied with.”

Question put, and division taken upon the amendment—

Minority—AYES, 3, viz. :

Mover, Seconder, REV. T. F. MILLER.

Majority—NOES, 8, viz. :

MESSRS. GRIMSHAW,	MESSRS. GORDON,
“ DUNVILLE,	“ TENNENT,
“ CLARKE,	“ JOHN S. CRAWFORD,
“ BLAKISTON HOUSTON,	SIR ROBERT BATESON, BART.

For the original resolution—

Majority—AYES, 8. Division same as before.

Minority—NOES, 4, viz. :

BISHOP OF DOWN,	REV. DR. EDGAR,
RIGHT REV. BISHOP DENVIR,	REV. T. F. MILLER.

Moved by J. S. Crawford, Esq., and Sir Robert Bateson, Bart.,

Resolved—2d. “That though unaware of the legislative provision under which such appointments have been made, and such salaries ordered, we yet, out of respect to the Lord Lieutenant and Council, do hereby direct Dr. Stewart, the Resident Physician, to give to the Clergymen so designated as Chaplains every facility whether for personal interview or for the celebration of Divine Service; but always under his responsibility, not to permit their access to any patient or patients to whom he may deem it likely to be injurious, on the same principle as has hitherto been acted upon with respect to the parochial and other Clergy; and that he continue to act in the same manner with respect to the patients of other persuasions.”

Amendment by Bishop of Down and Bishop Denvir,

“That the Rules and Regulations, as set forth by the Lord Lieutenant in Council, bearing date October 14th, 1853, be complied with, and that the Resident Physician, Dr. Stewart, be authorized to give effect to the same.”

Question put, and division taken upon the amendment—

Minority—AYES, 3, viz.:

BISHOP OF DOWN, BISHOP DENVIR, and REV. T. F. MILLER.

Majority—NOES, 8. Division same as before.

Question and division upon the original resolution—

Majority—AYES, 8. Division same as before.

Minority—NOES, 3. Division same as before.

Moved by John S. Crawford, Esq., and Sir Robert Bateson, Bart.,

Resolved—3d. “That with respect to the document dated 15th November, 1853, and signed ‘Theobald M’Kenna, Clerk to the Council,’ in which he states that he has taken upon himself to intercept from the Board by whom he is employed, the Estimate for the quarter ending 31st March, 1853, and to return it to this Board, in order that we should insert therein the salaries of the Chaplains from the date of their respective appointments—we can only take this communication as one from himself, having no evidence of its having been sanctioned or even seen by the Council. That

the Estimate be, therefore, returned in its original state to Mr. M'Kenna, in order to be submitted to the Privy Council; and that he be informed, at the same time, for the information of the Privy Council, if necessary, that this Board will certainly not make itself a party, directly or indirectly, to the taxation of the district, for a purpose against which they have repeatedly remonstrated as injurious to the best interests of the unhappy beings under their charge, and which has received the unanimous condemnation of the three Grand Juries, who are the financial representatives of the County of Antrim, of the County of Down, and of the County of the Town of Carrickfergus."

Question put, and Meeting divided—

Majority—AYES, 8. Division same as before.

Minority—NOES, 4. Division same as before.

Moved by John S. Crawford, Esq., and Sir Robert Bateson, Bart.,

Resolved—4th. "That we consider it scarcely necessary to record the fact, that the Resolutions of the Board of Governors on the present question have not been influenced by any degree of political or sectarian feeling. They have been arrived at on a deliberate consideration of the subject, and from an intimate knowledge of the local circumstances which, in the judgment of the majority, make the proposed experiment perhaps more dangerous here than elsewhere. They have been supported by the great majority of the Governors, including various shades of political and religious opinion, and they have, as we feel assured, the approval of the great mass of the educated and intelligent portion of the community."

Amendment by the Bishop of Down and Rev. T. F. Miller,

"That whilst we deplore the discussion which has taken place at the Board, in reference to the appointment of Chaplains, we consider that the Resolution now proposed is unnecessary and uncalled for."

Question put upon amendment, and Meeting divided—

Minority—AYES, 3, viz.:

Mover, Seconder, BISHOP DENVIR.

Majority—NOES, 8. Division same as before.

Question put upon resolution, and Meeting divided—

Majority—AYES, 8. Division same as before.

Minority—NOES, 3. Division same as before.

Moved by John S. Crawford, Esq., and Sir Robert Bateson, Bart,

Resolved—5th. “That the Memorial now prepared for an issue of two thousand and sixty pounds one shilling and two pence be adopted by this Board, and transmitted, through the Clerk of the Council, to the Lord Lieutenant in Council.”

Amendment by Bishop Denvir and Bishop of Down,

“That the sum of £128 : 1s. 6d. be added to the above Memorial, being the amount due to the respective Chaplains, from the date of their appointment up to December 31st, 1853.”

Question put upon amendment, and Meeting divided—

Minority—AYES, 3. Division same as before.

Majority—NOES, 8. Division same as before.

Question put upon resolution, and Meeting divided—

Majority—AYES, 8. Division same as before.

Minority—NOES, 3. Division same as before.

Moved by J. S. Crawford, Esq., and Robert James Tennent, Esq.,

Resolved—6th. “That copies of the foregoing Resolutions, and Amendments, and Votes, be transmitted to the Lord Lieutenant in Council, through the Clerk of the Council.”

Passed *nem. con.*—Meeting adjourned.

Board of Governors held in the Asylum, on Monday, February 6th, 1854.

PRESENT :

The Mayor of Belfast (F. H. LEWIS, Esq.) in the Chair.

JOHN SINCLAIRE, Esq.,
SIR ROBT. BATESON, BART., D.L.,
ROBERT J. TENNENT, Esq., D.L.,
RIGHT REV. BISHOP DENVIR,
REV. DR. EDGAR,
R. B. B. HOUSTON, Esq., D.L.,

JOHN M'NEILE, Esq., D.L.,
C. B. GRIMSHAW, Esq.,
JOHN S. CRAWFORD, Esq., J.P.,
JOHN CLARKE, Esq., J.P.,
WILLIAM DUNVILLE, Esq.,
REV. T. F. MILLER.

The Two Physicians also present.

Read—The following copy of an Order of the Privy Council, received from the Clerk of the Council on the 27th ultimo, viz.:

“By the Lord Lieutenant and Council of Ireland.

“ST. GERMANS.

“UPON reading, this day, a letter from the Manager of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, together with the documents transmitted therewith, viz.:—A copy of the proceedings of the Board of Governors, assembled at a specially summoned stated meeting, held on the 2d January, 1854; an Estimate and Application for Issue (duplicate) for the quarter ended 31st December, 1853; and an Estimate and Application for Issue for the quarter to end 31st March, 1854.

“We, the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland, do hereby order and direct that the application from the Board of Governors, for an issue for the support and maintenance of the Asylum for the quarter ended 31st December, 1853, be remitted to the Governors to be amended, by inserting therein the salaries of the Chaplains from the dates of their respective appointments, at the rates fixed by our Order of the 7th November last, as already required by the letter of the Clerk of the Council, of the 15th November last, addressed by and with our authority to the Manager of the Asylum.

“And we do further order that the application from the Board of Governors, for an issue for the support and maintenance of the Asylum for the quarter to end 31st March, 1854, be returned to the Board of Governors, to be amended in like manner.

“And we do further order and direct that a copy of this Order be transmitted to the Board of Governors.

“Given at the Council Chamber in Dublin, the 23d day of January, 1854.

“MAZIERE BRADY, C.
RICHARD MOORE.
RICHD. W. GREENE.
FREDERICK SHAW.

“R. KEATINGE.
JOHN HATCHELL.
A. BREWSTER.

“A true copy.

(Signed),

“THEOBALD M'KENNA.”

Moved by John S. Crawford, Esq., and R. B. Blakiston Houston, Esq.,

Resolved—1st. “That this Board regret their inability, consistently with their conscientious convictions, to amend the Estimates in the manner directed by the Privy Council; and that the Privy Council be referred to the Resolutions passed at the last Meeting, to which this Board still adhere. That the Estimates be accordingly returned to the Privy Council in their original form.”

Amendment by Rev. Mr. Miller and Bishop Denvir,

“That in order to save delay, and secure to the Asylum

the ordinary and requisite supplies, the Chaplains' salaries, as directed by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council, be inserted in the Estimates."

Question put upon amendment, and Meeting divided—

Minority—AYES, 2, viz.:

Mover and Seconder.

Majority—NOES, 7, viz.:

SIR R. BATESON, BART.,	MESSRS. GRIMSHAW,
MESSRS. BLAKISTON HOUSTON,	“ TENNENT,
“ CLARKE,	“ DUNVILLE.
“ CRAWFORD,	

Question put upon resolution, and Meeting divided—

Majority—AYES, 7. Division same as before.

Minority—NOES, 3, viz.:

BISHOP DENVIR, REV. DR. EDGAR, REV. T. F. MILLER.

NOTE.—Mr. Sinclair declined voting at all; and Mr. M'Neile was obliged to leave the Meeting before any vote was taken.

Moved by Sir Robert Bateson, Bart., and Robert J. Tennent, Esq.,

Resolved—2d. “That there is at present due to the Bank, by this Asylum, £686 : 7s. 8d., and accounts unpaid to the amount of £406 : 11s. 11d. That the attention of the Privy Council be, therefore, called to the necessity of an immediate supply of funds, so that the Governors may be enabled to pay these debts, and to defray the current expenses of the Establishment.”

Question put, and Meeting divided—

Majority—AYES, 8, viz.:

MOVER,	MESSRS. CRAWFORD,
SECONDER,	“ GRIMSHAW,
MESSRS. BLAKISTON HOUSTON,	“ DUNVILLE,
“ CLARKE,	REV. DR. EDGAR.

Minority—NOES, 2, viz.:

BISHOP DENVIR, REV. T. F. MILLER.

Moved by Sir Robert Bateson, Bart., and William Dunville, Esq.,

Resolved—3d. “That the consideration of the tenders for contracts for the ensuing year be postponed, and no cheque drawn till the Board shall have funds in Bank.”

Question put, and Meeting divided, and carried as above.

Moved by C. B. Grimshaw, Esq., and R. B. Blakiston Houston, Esq.,

Resolved—4th. “That Dr. Stewart, the Resident Physician, be directed to transmit these Resolutions to the Privy Council, and to summon a special Meeting of the Board so soon as an answer shall be received.”

Question put, and Meeting divided—

Majority—AYES, 7, viz.:

MOVER,	MESSRS. CLARKE,
SECONDER,	“ CRAWFORD,
SIR R. BATESON, BART.,	“ DUNVILLE.
MR. TENNENT,	

Minority—NOES, 3, viz.:

BISHOP DENVIR, REV. DR. EDGAR, REV. T. F. MILLER.

Moved by R. B. Blakiston Houston, Esq., and Robert J. Tennent, Esq.,

Resolved—5th. “That copies of the communications from the Government, and of the transactions of this Board, with reference to the appointment and payment of Chaplains, since the last Annual Report, be sent to each of the three Grand Juries, viz.:—for the County of Antrim, the County of Down, and the County of the Town of Carrickfergus.”

Question put, and Meeting divided—

Majority—AYES, 7, viz.:

MOVER,	MESSRS. CRAWFORD,
SECONDER,	“ GRIMSHAW,
SIR R. BATESON, BART.,	“ DUNVILLE.
MR. CLARKE,	

Minority—NOES, 2, viz.:

BISHOP DENVIR, REV. T. F. MILLER.

At a Meeting of the Board of Governors, held in the Asylum, on Monday, March 6, 1854.

PRESENT :

The MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE in the Chair.

SIR ROBT. BATESON, BT., D.L.,	W. M ^c CANCE, Esq., J.P.,
THE MAYOR OF BELFAST (F. H. Lewis, Esq.),	RT. REV. BISHOP DENVIR,
DR. NUGENT, Government Inspector of Hospitals for the Insane,	JOHN S. CRAWFORD, Esq., J.P.,
R. B. B. HOUSTON, Esq., D.L.,	W. DUNVILLE, Esq.,
JOHN CLARKE, Esq., J.P.,	JOHN SINCLAIRE, Esq.,
	REV. T. F. MILLER,
	REV. DR. EDGAR.

The Two Physicians also present.

Submitted and read, the annexed letters :—

“ *Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,
February 24th, 1854.* ”

“ SIR,—I beg calling your particular attention to the enclosed copy of a letter, received this date, from the Contractors who supply the Institution with bread, in which they give notice that the supply, after this month, will be discontinued for the reasons therein stated; and to request accordingly, that you will be pleased immediately to inform me the course to be pursued under circumstances so very urgent and pressing. I may take this opportunity also of stating that the house is similarly situated with the several other Contractors, who, not having been paid their accounts as usual, for the month of January last, may cease at any time to supply milk, meat, &c.; and that parties to whom accounts in ordinary are owed, are becoming importunate for payment. And further, that according to the copies of the Resolutions of the Board, forwarded to you on the 6th instant, it will be seen that a special meeting was directed to be summoned when an answer arrived to them, but that none having been received, no meeting can take place till the stated monthly one, on the 6th proximo, so that, in the meantime, it is absolutely requisite for the support of the inmates, to know what is to be done.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ROBERT STEWART, Resident Physician.

“ The Clerk of the Council, Council
Office, Dublin Castle.”

[COPY OF LETTER REFERRED TO ABOVE.]

“ *Newry, 23d February, 1854.* ”

“ SIR,—In consequence of the terms of our Contract having been broken through by the non-payment of our account for bread for the last month, we hereby give you notice that we will not continue to supply the Lunatic Asylum with bread after this month; and as we have no wish to put you to any inconvenience, we give you this notice, that you may make other arrangements for your future supply.—Yours very respectfully,
KIDD, BROTHERS.

“ Dr. Stewart, Lunatic Asylum, Belfast.”

“ IMMEDIATE.

“ *Council Office, Dublin, 28th February, 1854.* ”

“ SIR,—I am directed to acquaint you that an Order in Council was this day made for Issues to the Governors and Directors of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, for the periods herein set forth, viz :—

Issue for Quarter ended 31st December, 1853,	. - -	£898 1 8
Issue for Quarter to end 31st March, 1854,	- - -	1,037 10 0

In these Issues provision has been made for the sums necessary for the payment of the salaries of the several Chaplains. The Lords of the Treasury have been requested to direct the Issue accordingly.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

“ THEOBALD M'KENNA, Clerk of the Council.

“ The Manager of the District Lunatic Asylum, Belfast.”

“Dublin Castle, 28th February, 1854.

“SIR,—I am directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acquaint you, for the information of the Governors of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, that application has been this day made to the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty’s Treasury for an advance of £1,935 : 11s. 9d. for the support and maintenance of the Asylum.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed), “THOMAS A. LARCOM.

“R. Stewart, Esq., M.D., Resident Physician, &c., Belfast.”

The Board considering that the words “issued accordingly,” contained in the letter now read of the Clerk of the Council, required explanation before any cheques were drawn, the granting of the money appearing to depend on the Board’s ordering “the payment of the salaries of the several Chaplains,” which had been included in the Issues by Government, Dr. Nugent undertook, on his return to Dublin, to call the attention of the proper quarter to the above point, and communicate the result to the Board without any delay; and, thereupon, it was

Ordered—“That this Meeting, at its rising, do adjourn until Friday next, the 10th instant, at the hour of one o’clock, the Governors being specially summoned for that day; and that, in the meantime, the signing of cheques for the payment of the accounts of January and February be postponed till then, and also the consideration of the Tenders for Contracts for the year to commence on the 1st proximo.”

Sir ROBERT BATESON having requested information from the Physicians of the Institution regarding the effects produced on the inmates by the attendance of the several Ministers of Religion, who had been visiting the House since January last; and the Board, on debate, having resolved that the question should be answered,

Dr. M’CORMAC, in reply, stated that his sphere of local observation was, of necessity, more limited than that of Dr. Stewart. He could not say that he had witnessed much, if any, change in the general condition of the patients during the period in which additional facilities for affording religious instruction had been furnished. In two of the inmates, however, to whom religious ministrations had been imparted, there was very distinct evidence of consequent injurious (maniacal) excitement. In the course of some sub-

sequent remarks, Dr. M'Cormac stated that, however desirable it might prove to bring the insane within the sphere of just spiritual relations with the Deity, he did not think that collective religious ministrations necessarily had this tendency. To realize such relations in the poor insane would, in Dr. M'Cormac's opinion, require protracted personal attention, along with general curative influences judiciously directed, to each individual case.

Dr. STEWART said that, in answering the question sanctioned by the Board, he felt constrained to express his conviction that the effect produced on the patients generally, by the Sunday ministrations of the several Clergymen, had been prejudicially exciting, and not salutary.

Bishop DENVIR requested that Dr. Stewart would inform the Board of the cause of so few patients now attending the ministrations of the several Clergymen on Sundays; he particularly, however, referred to those of the Roman Catholic persuasion, not more than three or four, as he had been told, being present, whereas the number at first was much greater.

Dr. STEWART, in reply, stated that, for the first few Sundays, a comparatively large attendance of patients had been sanctioned by him, in order that he might be able to form a fair judgment of the effects of the celebration of collective worship by the different Clergymen; but that he found it absolutely necessary, from the unsatisfactory results produced, in many cases, on the patients, in the discharge of his conscientious duty, and in accordance with the resolution of the Board, to limit the number afterwards very considerably.

Bishop DENVIR then inquired if it were not the case that, for a period of seven years, no parochial Roman Catholic Clergyman had been sent for to visit Roman Catholic patients, and if a Clergyman had not been refused admission to see a patient when he called for that purpose.

Dr. STEWART said that he could not charge his memory as to the time that elapsed in the special or casual visitations of particular Clergymen; he could, however, positively state, that during the whole period of his office, every reasonable facility had been afforded to Clergymen of all religious denominations for visiting patients who were at all fitted to receive such visits. That he remembered the circumstance of a

Roman Catholic Clergyman presenting himself, some years ago, to visit a female patient whose mental condition was such, that it was deemed quite useless, or rather likely to be injurious, for a Clergyman to see her; the Clergyman, however, being very pressing, he was permitted to visit this patient, and did so. The patient shortly after died, without having shown the slightest symptom of rationality. Dr. Stewart added, that, with reference to another case which had been complained of, in which a patient died without having seen a Roman Catholic Clergyman, though having asked for one, he could only say, that he himself had sent his own private servant with the message to the house of Bishop Denvir, and had been informed that the delay of the Clergyman's arrival arose from Bishop Denvir's servant having forgotten to deliver the message.

In reply to the Rev. Dr. Edgar, about the Presbyterian Clergyman not obtaining ingress to the patients by the front hall-door,

Dr. STEWART stated that the front hall-door entrance was exclusively for access to the Board-room, and to the private residence of the Superintendent Physician, such being the regularly planned and approved arrangement when the proposed alterations and improvements in the central building were directed to be carried into effect. That, for the general official purposes of the Establishment, two side-doors were in use—one at the male wing, the other at the female; and that, upon one occasion, the Roman Catholic Clergyman had been admitted by the private door, but only as a matter of courtesy.—Adjourned.

At an adjourned Meeting of the Board of Governors, held in the Asylum, on Friday, March 10th, 1854.

PRESENT :

SIR ROBERT BATESON, BART., in the Chair ;

MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE,

JOHN SINCLAIRE, ESQ.,

W. DUNVILLE, ESQ.,

JOHN S. CRAWFORD, ESQ., J.P.,

R. B. B. HOUSTON, ESQ., D.L.,

BISHOP DENVIR,

JOHN CLARKE, ESQ., J.P.,

C. B. GRIMSHAW, ESQ.,

ROBT. JAMES TENNENT, ESQ., D.L.

The Two Physicians also present.

Proceedings of last Meeting read and confirmed.

Read—A letter from the Paymaster of Civil Services, dated Pay Office, Civil Services, Dublin Castle, 6th March, 1854, stating that the sum of £1,935 : 11s. 9d. had been lodged that date in the Bank of Ireland, to the credit of the Asylum.

Read—A letter from Dr. Nugent, dated Dublin Castle, 7th March, 1854, stating that the issues, directed by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council on the 28th ultimo, would be forthwith placed to the credit of the Governors, to be drawn by them as usual.

Moved by John Sharman Crawford, Esq., and William Dunville, Esq.,

Resolved—“That in acknowledging the receipt of the communication of the Clerk of the Council, dated February 28th, 1854, and the lodgment in the Bank of £1,935 : 11s. 9d. to the credit of the Governors, the Board feel called upon to say that their opinions on the subject of the appointment of Chaplains remain unaltered, and that they will not cheque for, or in any way take part in paying the salaries which have been allocated to the gentlemen who are designated as “Chaplains,” and the amount of whose salaries, as it appears, has been included, without the application or wish of the Governors, in the sum now remitted.”

Question put, and Meeting divided—

Majority—AYES, 7, viz.:

MOVER,	MESSRS. CLARKE,
SECONDER,	“ TENNENT,
MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE,	“ GRIMSHAW.
MR. R. B. BLAKISTON HOUSTON,	

Minority—NOES, 2, viz.:

BISHOP DENVIR, and MR. SINCLAIRE.

Ordered—That a copy of the above Resolution be transmitted to the Clerk of the Council, to be laid before the Lord Lieutenant in Council.—Adjourned.

Board of Governors held in the Asylum, on Wednesday, March 29, 1854.

PRESENT:

Bishop DENVIR in the Chair.

SIR ROBERT BATESON, BART.,	JOHN S. CRAWFORD, Esq., J.P.,
C. B. GRIMSHAW, Esq.,	JOHN SINCLAIRE, Esq.,
JOHN CLARKE, Esq.,	WILLIAM DUNVILLE, Esq.

The Resident Physician also present.

Read—The following communications from the several Grand Juries of the district, assembled at the late Lent Assizes :

“ *Secretary's Office, Downpatrick, 21st March, 1854.* ”

“ SIR,—I am directed by the County Down Grand Jury assembled at Lent Assizes, 1854, to transmit herewith a copy of a resolution, adopted by them, with regard to the appointment of Chaplains to the District Lunatic Asylum at Belfast, and request that you will lay it before the Board at their next Meeting.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed), “ R. GORDON, Secretary of Grand Jury.

“ Robert Stewart, Esq., M.D.”

“ *Grand Jury-Room, Down Spring Assizes, 1854.* ”

“ *Resolved*—That the Grand Jury of the County of Down, after due and mature consideration of the question involved, in the appointment of Chaplains to the ‘ District Lunatic Asylum,’ at Belfast, are of opinion, that after the decided convictions expressed by the Medical Officers of the Institution, as to the injurious effects of collective religious ministrations on the patients, any assent to the measures ordered by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council would be most inadvisable, and against the restoration of the mental health of the patients ; and as it appears, at the same time, by the resolutions of the Board of Governors, of the 2d of January last, that all requisite facilities, compatible with their unfortunate condition, have been ordered for the spiritual welfare of the inmates, the Grand Jury feel themselves called upon to express, in the strongest manner, their entire approval of the measures taken by the Board of Governors, to prevent what they consider an injurious establishment of Chaplains being forced upon the Institution.

“The Grand Jury consider themselves further called upon to record, though with all due respect for the Government, their great regret at the measure of coercion, adopted in a presentment for the salaries of the Chaplains, being forced upon them by the law, after they had declined to approve of the same, and they are of opinion, that, considering this presentment has not virtually received the consent of the County represented by them, the Governors of the Institution will act most properly in declining to draw checks for the payment of the salaries of the Chaplains ; and, should the Governors adopt this suggestion, the Grand Jury will fully and cordially approve of their so doing, as, by such a proceeding, they conceive all responsibility will be removed from the Governors, and remain where justly due, should they be further constrained by law to pay the said salaries.

(Signed), “ WM. B. FORDE, JUN., Foreman.”

“ *Belfast, 21st March, 1854.* ”

“ SIR,—I have been directed by the Grand Jury of the County of the Town of Carrickfergus, to forward you the following copy of a resolution, passed by that body at the present Assizes.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, (Signed), “ ROBERT FORBES, Secretary, *pro tem.*

“ Robert Stewart, Esq., M.D., Resident Physician,
Lunatic Asylum, Belfast.”

Resolved—That this Grand Jury, having read and considered both the published minutes of the Board of Governors of the Belfast Lunatic Asylum, and the replies to the circular of the Lord Bishop of Down, are of opinion, that the appointment of Chaplains to that Institution, would be prejudicial to the patients therein, and for that reason, we decline to make a presentment for the salaries of such Chaplains, unless we are legally bound to do so.

(Signed), "JAMES BARNETT, for Self and Fellows.

"Grand Jury-Room, Belfast, 20th March, 1854."

"County Court-House, Belfast, March 28th, 1854.

"SIR,—Referring to your letter of the 16th instant, requesting me to lay before the Grand Jury of the County of Antrim, the copies of communications from the Government, and of the transactions of the Board of Governors accompanying it, I beg to say, that I complied with the request, and that the Grand Jury have declined making any presentment for the salaries of Chaplains for the Lunatic Asylum.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, (Signed),

"JOHN COATES, Secretary to the Grand Jury, County Antrim.

"To Robert Stewart, Esq., M.D., Resident Physician,
Lunatic Asylum, Belfast."

BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

The list, nominally and numerically, of Governors, continues just the same as last year. One of the members, however—the Rev. J. S. B. Monsell—is not now in the district, having gone to reside permanently in England.

With the foregoing observations, the undersigned begs closing this Report, and tendering his thanks to the Governors for their attention to any suggestion that has been made for the furthering of the interests of the Institution.

R. STEWART, M.D.,
Resident Physician-Superintendent.

May 1st, 1854.

APPENDIX.

GENERAL TABLES OF STATISTICS, &c.

Table XIV.—Shewing the Admissions, Discharges, &c., from each County in the District, during the Year ending 31st March, 1854.

ADMITTED FROM EACH COUNTY.							Males.	Females.	Total.
Antrim, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	21	34	55
County of the Town of Carrickfergus, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	3
Down, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	13	9	22
TOTALS,							34	46	80
DISCHARGED, &c., TO EACH COUNTY.									
Antrim, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	23	26	49
County of the Town of Carrickfergus, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	3
Down, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	18	16	34
TOTALS,							41	45	86
REMAINING IN ASYLUM, 31ST MARCH, 1854.									
Antrim, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	73	79	152
County of the Town of Carrickfergus, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
Down, ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	70	47	117
TOTALS,							146	130	276

Table XV.—Shewing the Per Centages of Discharges and Deaths, and the Average Per Centage, calculated on the Average Number of Patients, for Thirteen Years, ending 31st March, 1854.

Years, ending 31st March.	Yearly Average Number.	RECOVERED.		RELIEVED.		DIED.	
		No. of Cases.	Rate per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate per Cent.
1842	246·80	72	29·17	11	4·45	27	10·94
1843	249·44	90	36·08	13	5·21	18	7·21
1844	253·15	69	27·25	13	5·13	21	8·29
1845	258·83	68	26·36	21	8·14	40	15·50
1846	252·18	61	24·19	14	5·55	24	9·51
1847	254·96	60	23·58	22	8·62	27	10·58
1848	262·56	81	30·85	15	5·71	47	17·90
1849	271·32	69	25·43	14	5·16	30	11·05
1850	267·51	50	18·68	22	8·22	43	16·07
1851	271·12	81	29·87	29	10·69	29	10·69
1852	275·71	62	22·48	24	8·70	27	9·79
1853	280·01	67	23·92	21	7·49	25	8·92
1854	279·11	47	16·83	20	7·16	19	6·80

Table XVI.—Employment.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Assisting Servants,	10	12	22
Basket-making,	2	0	2
Breaking Freestone, &c.,	10	0	10
Cultivating the Ground,	60	0	60
Gardening Labour,	10	0	10
Embroidering,	0	4	4
Knitting,	2	14	16
Making and Repairing Clothing, Bedding, &c.,	0	16	16
Making and Repairing Shoes,	2	0	2
Painting,	1	0	1
Pumping Water,	16	0	16
Quilting,	0	4	4
Smith Work,	2	0	2
Spinning,	0	18	18
Sweeping Yards, Carrying Coals, &c., &c.,	16	0	16
Tailoring,	5	0	5
Washing in Laundry,	0	16	16
Weaving, Winding, and Warping,	12	0	12
TOTALS,	148	84	232

Table XVII.—Forms of Disease of the Total Number of Patients remaining in the Hospital, on 31st March, 1854.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Mania,	101	64	165
Do. complicated with Epilepsy,	8	3	11
Monomania,	10	16	26
Melancholia,	18	36	54
Congenital Idiocy,	2	0	2
Dementia,	7	11	18
TOTALS,	146	130	276

Table XVIII.—Shewing the State of the Cases remaining in the Hospital, 31st March, 1854.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Chronic Cases,	130	97	227
Probably Curable do.,	16	33	49
TOTALS,	146	130	276

Table XIX.—Shewing the Religious Persuasions of the 276 Patients remaining in the Hospital, on 31st March, 1854.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Established Church of England and Ireland,	36	34	70
Methodists,	0	4	4
Presbyterians,	56	43	99
Roman Catholics,	51	47	98
Unitarians,	3	2	5
TOTALS,	146	130	276

Table XX.—Ages of the 276 Patients remaining in the Hospital,
31st March, 1854.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 20 years, ...	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
From 20 to 30 years,	...	...	...	...	29	19	48
“ 30 to 40 “	...	...	...	...	32	40	72
“ 40 to 50 “	...	...	...	...	30	33	63
“ 50 to 60 “	...	...	...	...	33	25	58
“ 60 to 70 “	...	...	...	...	17	9	26
“ 70 to 80 “	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
					—	—	—
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	146	130	276

Table XXI.—Shewing the Duration of Residence in the Hospital, of the
276 Patients remaining under Treatment, 31st March, 1854.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
From 1 week to 1 month, ...	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
“ 1 to 2 months,	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
“ 2 to 3 “	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
“ 3 to 6 “	...	...	...	...	3	5	8
“ 6 to 9 “	...	...	...	...	4	7	11
“ 9 months to 1 year, ...	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
“ 1 year to 18 months,	...	...	...	...	7	14	21
“ 18 months to 2 years,	...	...	...	...	6	4	10
“ 2 years to 4 “	...	...	...	...	21	23	44
“ 4 “ to 6 “	...	...	...	...	15	18	33
“ 6 “ to 10 “	...	...	...	...	18	15	33
“ 10 “ to 15 “	...	...	...	...	31	19	50
“ 15 “ to 20 “	...	...	...	...	11	14	25
“ 20 “ to 25 “	...	...	...	...	22	3	25
					—	—	—
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	146	130	276

Table XXII.—Shewing the Articles Manufactured and Made by the
Patients during the Year.

1415 Hanks Linen Yarn.	104 Pairs Trousers.
100 Hanks Thread.	53 Vests.
1091 Yards Plain Linen.	101 Shirts.
100 Yards Striped Linen.	61 Shifts.
— Yards Twilled Linen.	134 Aprons.
81 Yards Ticken.	98 Petticoats.
— Yards Gingham.	13 Wrappers.
— Yards Diaper.	125 Day Caps.
— Yards Twilled Calico.	148 Handkerchiefs.
66 Yards Chequer.	116 Bolsters.
334 Pairs Stockings and Socks.	70 Bed Ticks.
— Pairs Leather Shoes Soled and Heeled.	23 Gowns.
80 Pairs List do.	6 Quilts.
58 Pairs Sheets.	99 Slips.
52 Men's Coats.	2 Overalls.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE FOR ONE YEAR,

BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1853, TO 31ST MARCH, 1854.

THE CHARGE.		THE DISCHARGE.	
Balance of last Account in favour of the public,	£140 5 9	Paid for Provisions,	£1,949 12 0
Received from the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury,	3,791 9 5	Do. Clothing,	426 7 5
Received for Vegetables and Fruit sold,	£59 10 7½	Do. Bedding,	54 17 10
Do. Oats and Wheat sold,	79 18 5	Do. Furniture,	98 17 6
Do. Potatoes sold,	31 6 5	Do. Fuel and Light,	247 17 0
Do. Bones and Rags sold,	7 6 2½	Do. Soap, Candles, &c.,	48 0 9
Unclaimed small Sums of money of Patients deceased,	0 13 4	Do. Stationery and Books,	27 5 9
Received for Fines on Servants,	0 3 4	Do. Advertising and Printing,	10 1 0
Do. Grazing on New Ground,	29 0 0	Do. Medicine, Wine, &c.,	40 7 5
	£207 18 5	Do. Repairs and Alterations,	149 11 4
		Do. Farm and Garden Expenses,	32 19 0
		Do. Insurance,	19 10 0
		Do. Incidental Expenses,	113 5 0
		Do. Salaries and Wages,	858 2 6
		Do. Postage,	5 7 7
			£4,082 2 1
Balance in favour of the public,	£4,139 14 7	Balance on hand, 1st April, 1854,	57 12 6
	£57 12 6		£4,139 14 7

AN ACCOUNT OF THE EXPENDITURE ON, AND PRODUCE OF, THE LANDS OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR ONE YEAR,

BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1853, TO 31ST MARCH, 1854.

Dr.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	PRODUCE.	£	s.	d.
To Seed Potatoes,				£9 15 0	By 168 cwt. Potatoes, sold at various prices, ..	£21 6 5½		
" Seeds and Plants,				11 0 10	" 126 do., used in the Establishment, valued } at 4s. 6d. per cwt.,	28 7 0		
" Spades, Shovels, Hooks, Rakes, Scythes, &c., ..				5 15 7				£59 13 5½
" Bran,				1 2 3	" 85 cwt. Oats, sold at prices varying from } 8s. 4d. to 9s. 8d. per cwt.,	37 5 2		
" Shoeing Market Horse,				1 16 2	" 75 cwt. do., used in the Establishment, } valued at 9s. 6d. per cwt.,	35 2 6		
" Rent Charge,				2 4 2				72 7 8
" Sand,				0 5 0				42 13 3
" Balance,				£32 19 0	" 59½ cwt. Wheat, sold at prices varying from 14s. 3d. to } 14s. 7d. per cwt., .. .. .	.. .. .		2 2 6
				380 18 6	" 2½ cwt. do., used for seed, at 17s. per cwt., ..	.. .. .		50 0 0
					" 400 cwt. Straw, used in the Establishment, at 2s. 6d. } per cwt., .. .. .	.. .. .		42 10 0
					" 140 cwt. Hay, used in the Establishment, valued at } 3s. 6d. per cwt., .. .. .	.. .. .		15 0 0
					" Manure, valued at .. .. .	.. .. .		59 10 7½
					" Vegetables and Fruit sold, .. .. .	.. .. .		40 0 0
					" Do. used in the Establishment, valued at ..	.. .. .		29 0 0
					" Received for Grazing on New Ground, .. .. .	.. .. .		1 0 0
					" Osiers made into Baskets, .. .. .	.. .. .	
					Total, .. .. .	.. .. .		£413 17 6
					" Balance, .. .. .	.. .. .		£380 18 6